



INFO-ALERT

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The Embassy will be closed on the following day:

October 10: Columbus Day

POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

THE AMERICAN EMPIRE? NOT SO FAST

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.

World Policy Journal, Spring 2005, 4 pages

Is the so-called American Empire a fitting successor to the great historic empires? Certainly the overwhelming military, economic, and cultural power projected by the United States at the start of the twenty-first century could qualify as imperial. Arthur Schlesinger, historian, writer, and winner of two Pulitzer Prizes, takes a look at whether America's history commits the United States to an imperial destiny.

MEASURING POWER

Gregory Treverton, Seth G. Jones

Harvard International Review, Summer 2005, 5 pages

The concept of political power poses one of the most difficult and controversial problems of political science. Understanding the nature of power has long been central to the study of international relations and to the work of the U.S. intelligence community. The task is now all the more important and elusive because the United States enjoys unprecedented economic, military, and technological might in comparison to other states. Measuring the power of the United States and predicting future balances are fundamental to major debates over U.S. foreign policy.

IN SEARCH OF PRO-AMERICANISM

Anne Applebaum

Foreign Policy, July/August 2005, 9 pages

Given all of the attention that has been lavished upon anti-Americanism in the past four years, it is surprising how little analysis has been applied to that first, spontaneous pro-American reaction to 9/11, and to pro-Americanism in general. After all, the populations of some countries continue to show approval of the United States, of the American president, and of U.S. foreign policy. Anne Applebaum, a columnist and member of the editorial board of the *Washington Post*, points out where America is still admired, and why.

GIVING JUSTICE ITS DUE

George Perkovich

Foreign Affairs, July/August 2005, 15 pages

With its ringing invocation of "the force of freedom," President George W. Bush's second inaugural address exemplified and updated the long-standing American belief that liberty is an intrinsic human good and that its promotion will enhance the nation's security and prosperity. George Perkovich, Vice President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, believes that broadening the focus would not only benefit the United States' political tradition, but also help neutralize opposition from radical Islamists and critics of globalization.

WOLFOWITZ: THE EXIT INTERVIEWS

Mark Bowden

Atlantic Monthly, July/August 2005, 10 pages

As Paul Wolfowitz prepared to leave office, the Deputy Secretary of Defense engaged in a series of conversations with Mark Bowden, the national correspondent for the *Atlantic Monthly*, on Iraq, democracy, intelligence, 9/11, and how he believes America must make its way in the world.

WAR POLICY, PUBLIC SUPPORT, AND THE MEDIA

Col. William M. Darley

Parameters, Summer 2005, 14 pages

William Darley, Director of Strategic Communications at the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, examines the relationship between press reporting, public opinion, and war policy, and provides a theoretical understanding of how these relate to each other. He notes that a good point of departure is to examine the conclusions that many social scientists reached concerning the relationship of the media and war policy during the Vietnam War.

NORTH KOREA: THE WAR GAME

Scott Stossel

Atlantic Monthly, July/August 2005, 11 pages

Dealing with North Korea could make Iraq look like child's play--and the longer one waits, the harder it will get. Scott Stossel, senior editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, discusses some of the country's most prominent foreign-policy strategists who recently conducted a Pentagon-style war game.

TROUBLED MARRIAGE: THE UNITED STATES AND THE U.N.: INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR WILLIAM H. LUERS

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, Winter 2005, 7 pages

In this interview, Ambassador Luers, head of the United Nations Association of the United States, discusses the U.N.'s strengths, weaknesses, and role in the twenty-first century. Ambassador Luers argues that no other organization better symbolizes global cooperation and shared values than the sixty year old institution headquartered in New York. He concedes that, as disagreements have risen on global issues, the effectiveness of the United Nations has been questioned. Many in the United States, and specifically the second Bush administration, remain unconvinced of the U.N.'s ability to successfully address pressing security questions. Recent circumstances in Iraq, Iran, and Darfur have exacerbated underlying tensions, resulting in the current strained relationship between the United States and the U.N.

THE ADVANCE OF FREEDOM: U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION

Michael A. Ledeen

Harvard International Review, Spring 2005, 4 pages

Michael Ledeen, resident scholar in the Freedom Chair at the American Enterprise Institute, presents historical background on democratic revolutions, noting that there is a continuing democratic revolution in the world today. He writes that the U.S. has always taken a major role in supporting democratic revolution and should not wait for crises to take action.

ECONOMICS & TRADE

ON THE MONEY TRAIL

Robert Hall

The World Today, May 2005, 3 pages

The private sector plays a major role in unraveling the money trail that finances terrorism, says Robert Hall, corporate security manager for Barclays Bank. On top of the plethora of rules from national and international groups involved in combating terrorist finance, a group of the world's largest banks has voluntarily developed the Wolfsberg anti-money laundering principles. These principles offer worldwide guidelines to combat money laundering and financial crime. The long-term goal of finding and disrupting terrorist networks, and arresting their principals, calls for careful targeting and better coordination, and this goal should remain the primary focus, he argues.

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS: IMPACT ON U.S. TRADE AND IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. TRADE POLICY

William H. Cooper

CRS Report for Congress, June 24, 2005. 19 pages

In the last few years, the United States has engaged or has proposed to engage in negotiations to establish bilateral and regional free trade arrangements (FTAs) with a number of trading partners. This Congressional report explains FTAs in the context of U.S. trade policy, economic impact, Bush administration policy, and recent developments.

THE STATE OF GLOBALIZATION

Juergen Stark

International Economy, Spring 2005, 6 pages

Stark, Deputy Governor of the Deutsche Bundesbank, notes that since the 1990s, an increasing proportion of global economic activity is market-determined. Major centrally planned economies have turned into market economies, and several strongly regulated emerging market economies have implemented radical reforms. Realistically, he adds, the United States and Asia will remain the centers of gravity of the global economy in the

coming years. Adjustments to these changing economic dynamics will likely include new alliances and relationships.

SOCIAL ISSUES & VALUES, EDUCATION & THE ARTS

HIGHER EDUCATION: WAKING UP TO THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION

Jon F. Wergin

Change, May/June 2005, 7 pages

Jon Wergin, a professor in the PhD program in Leadership and Change at Antioch University, looks at the importance of school accreditation in facilitating efficient student learning. He says that accreditation, largely an American invention, is the only organized means through which quality assurance is provided to the larger public.

THE FUTURE OF TRADITION

Lee Harris

Policy Review, June/July 2005, 18 pages

According to Lee Harris, author of "Civilization and Its Enemies: The Next Stage of History," America has been in the midst of a culture war for some time and will probably remain so for some time longer. Discussing this culture war he raises two important questions: Is it possible to defend tradition with the help of reason? In a world that is more and more rationalized, does tradition have a future?

HISTORY HAPPENED HERE

Gerri Hirshey

Parade, May 8, 2005, 4 pages

A growing number of community groups in cities and towns across the United States are banding together to save local landmarks – battlefields, classic movie theaters, houses of famous persons, abandoned train stations – even early McDonald's fast-food restaurants. The realization that unrecognized historical sites are being destroyed has prompted a wide variety of groups and foundations to rescue them, and the author notes that it has "changed perceptions of what's worth saving."

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

WHO SHOULD OWN IDEAS?

- **The People Own Ideas** by Lawrence Lessig
- **The Creators Own Ideas** by Richard Epstein
- **How Linux Could Overthrow Microsoft** by Charles Ferguson

Technology Review, June 2005, 19 pages

U.S. society seems destined to divide into two camps: communities that thrive on free copying and others that profit from copyrights. These are probably unstoppable trends. The courts and legislators should strive for balance: preserving a place for reasonable and limited copyrights, while simultaneously abjuring extreme limits on society's ability to "remix" culture. Lawrence Lessig, a professor of law at Stanford University, argues for free cultural reuse; Richard Epstein, a professor of law at the University of Chicago, points out that without state-enforced copyrights, there is little incentive to create; and Charles Ferguson, PhD in political science from MIT, writes about the threat against Linux and other products of the open-source movement.

CULTURE IN THE AGE OF BLOGGING

Terry Teachout

Commentary, June 2005, 10 pages

As a publishing phenomenon, blogs may strike some observers as reminiscent of a development first observed in the early 60's, when "niche" magazines began to supplant mass-circulation titles like *Life* and the *Saturday Evening Post*. But bloggers are not simply imitating the successful marketing strategies of yesterday's editors. Rather, their work is indicative of a sea change in American culture, one that has been accelerated in recent years by the web-based information technologies and "new media" that are now an integral part of the lives of most middle-class Americans. Terry Teachout, regular music critic for *Commentary*, explains how blogging crosses old lines to shape new communities.